AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An acrylic rubber comprised of a copolymer comprising 0.1 to 20% by weight of (A) units of ~~a butenedioic acid monoester monomer having an alicyclic structure~~ a monomer selected from the group consisting of monocyclohexyl fumarate and monocyclohexyl maleate and 50 to 99.9% by weight of (B) units of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid ester monomer and methacrylic acid ester monomer.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The acrylic rubber according to claim 1, wherein the copolymer comprises:

0.1 to 20% by weight of (A) units of ~~a butenedioic acid monoester monomer having an alcohol residue having 3 to 20 carbon atoms in at least one structure selected from the group consisting of monocycloalkyl, monocycloalkenyl, a naphthyl, a norbornyl and a norbornenyl,~~ a monomer selected from the group consisting of monocyclohexyl fumarate and monocyclohexyl maleate,

50 to 99.9% by weight of (B) units of at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid alkyl ester monomer, methacrylic acid alkyl ester monomer, acrylic acid alkoxyalkyl ester monomer, methacrylic acid alkoxyalkyl ester monomer, acrylic acid hydroxyalkyl ester monomer and methacrylic acid hydroxyalkyl ester monomer, and

0 to 49.9% by weight of units of a monomer copolymerizable with these monomers.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The acrylic rubber according to claim 1, wherein the content of the units (A) ~~of a butenedioic acid monoester monomer~~ is in the range of 0.5 to 10% by weight.

6. (Previously presented) The acrylic rubber according to claim 1, which has a carboxyl group content in the range of 5×10^{-4} to 4×10^{-1} per 100 g of rubber.

7. (Previously presented) The acrylic rubber according to claim 1, wherein the monomer units (B) comprises 30 to 100% by weight of units of ~~a~~ at least one monomer selected from acrylic acid alkyl ester monomer and methacrylic acid alkyl ester monomer, and 0 to 70% by weight of ~~a~~ at least one monomer selected from acrylic acid alkoxyalkyl ester monomer and methacrylic acid alkoxyalkyl ester monomer.

8. (Previously presented) The acrylic rubber according to claim 1,wherein the content of the monomer units (B) is in the range of 60 to 95% by weight.

9. (Previously presented) The acrylic rubber according to claim 1, which has a Mooney viscosity (ML_{1+4}, 100°C) in the range of 10 to 80.

10. (Withdrawn) A crosslinkable acrylic rubber composition comprising the acrylic rubber as claimed in claim 1, and a crosslinking agent.

11. (Withdrawn) The acrylic rubber composition according to claim 10, wherein the crosslinking agent is a polyamine crosslinking agent.

12. (Withdrawn) The acrylic rubber composition according to claim 10, wherein the content of crosslinking agent is in the range of 0.05 to 20 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the acrylic rubber.

13. (Withdrawn) The acrylic rubber composition according to claim 10, which further comprises a compound having a base dissociation constant in the range of 10^{-12} to 10^{6} as measured in water at 25°C as a crosslinking accelerator in an amount in the range of 0.1 to 20 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the acrylic rubber.

14. (Withdrawn) The acrylic rubber composition according to claim 10, which further comprises a monoamine compound in an amount in the range of 0.05 to 20 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the acrylic rubber.

15. (Withdrawn) The acrylic rubber composition according to claim 10, which is used for molding.

16. (Withdrawn) The acrylic rubber composition according to claim 10, which is used for extrusion shaping.

17. (Withdrawn) A shaped article obtainable by shaping and crosslinking the acrylic rubber composition as claimed in claim 10.

18. (Withdrawn) The shaped article according to claim 17, which is a molded article.

19. (Withdrawn) The shaped article according to claim 18, wherein the molded article is obtainable by compression molding, transfer molding or injection molding.

20. (Withdrawn) The shaped article according to claim 19, wherein the molded article is a sealer.

21. (Withdrawn) The shaped article according to claim 17, which is an extruded article.

22. (Withdrawn) The shaped article according to claim 21, wherein the extruded article is a hose member.